

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EB-03 INR-05 IO-03 SP-02 NEA-06

L-01 EURE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 RSC-01 /049 W

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P R 151436Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4246

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 27191

LIMDIS

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

STATE FOR EUR - HARTMAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, CSCE, CY, FR

SUBJECT: EC-NINE POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEETING NOVEMBER 7

REF: (A) PARIS 24981; (B) PARIS 23152; (C) STATE 230806

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: QUAI OFFICIAL HAS TOLD US THAT SHORT
EC-NINE POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEETING IN PARIS LATE LAST
WEEK TOOK NO MAJOR DECISIONS AND BROKE NO NEW GROUND.
GENERAL DISCUSSION TOUCHED ON MIDDLE EAST, GREECE, CSCE,
PORTUGAL AND EC-NINE SUMMIT. POLITICAL DIRECTORS HAVE
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NOT SCHEDULED ANOTHER REGULAR MEETING PRIOR TO THE TURN

OF THE YEAR, ALTHOUGH THEY WILL PROBABLY MEET AS AD HOC GROUP AS PREPARATIONS SPEED UP FOR EC-NINE SUMMIT IN PARIS DURING WEEK OF DECEMBER 9-13. QUAI OFFICIAL SAID FRENCH EC PRESIDENCY WAS COMPLETELY OPEN TO U.S. COMMENTS ON SUBJECTS UNDER DISCUSSION BY POLITICAL DIRECTORS, OR OTHER SUBJECTS. WASHINGTON MAY WISH TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATE SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS FOR EMBASSY TO PASS TO FRENCH EC PRESIDENCY IN PARIS, TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OPPORTUNITY TO INSERT OUR VIEWS INTO EC-NINE POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE PROCESS. END SUMMARY.

2. DUFOURCQ (QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR WESTERN EUROPE) BRIEFED US NOVEMBER 12 ON NOVEMBER 7 MEETING OF EC-NINE POLITICAL DIRECTORS. HE LEFT GENERAL IMPRESSION THAT EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS ADDRESSED NO PRESSING PROBLEMS THAT THEY FELT COULD BE SOLVED BY DISCUSSION AT THEIR LEVEL. NO MAJOR DECISIONS WERE TAKEN, NO NEW GROUND WAS BROKEN, BUT PROCESS OF EC-NINE POLITICAL CONSULTATION WAS KEPT IN MOTION.

3. MIDDLE EAST: DUFOURCQ SAID THAT POLITICAL DIRECTORS HAD AGREED TO CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE EC-NINE AT UNGA, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO PALESTINIAN ISSUE. AS HE HAD TOLD US EARLIER (REF A, PARA 4) NO COORDINATED EC-NINE POSITION COULD BE REACHED PRIOR TO THE APPEARANCE OF TEXT OF ARAB RESOLUTION ON PALESTINIAN PROBLEM. DUFOURCQ ACKNOWLEDGED THAT EC-NINE CONSENSUS ON THIS SUBJECT WAS NOT -- AND WOULD NOT BE -- EASY TO ACHIEVE.

4. GREECE: POLITICAL DIRECTORS DISCUSSED KNOTTY PROBLEM OF GREECE'S RETURN TO THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE, AND AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO BRING GREECE BACK INTO COUNCIL BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT OF ALL MEMBERS, INCLUDING TURKEY AND CYPRUS. WITH CYPRUS IN THE CHAIR AT THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE, HOWEVER, POLITICAL DIRECTORS WERE NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT TURKS WOULD CAST AFFIRMATIVE VOTE ON THIS ISSUE. COMPROMISE SOLUTION WHICH WOULD SEE CYPRUS STEPPING ASIDE TO PERMIT DANES TO ASSUME CHAIR LONG ENOUGH TO COMPLETE VOTE ON GREEK RETURN TO COUNCIL OF EUROPE APPARENTLY HAS NOT BEEN SUCCESSFULLY SOLD TO

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CYPRIOIS. DUFOURCQ ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THIS WAS HARDLY SUBJECT OF HIGHEST PRIORITY.

5. CSCE: THERE WAS BRIEF DISCUSSION OF CSCE SUBSTANCE, AND POLITICAL DIRECTORS AGREED TO MEET AGAIN IN MID-JANUARY 1975 TO DISCUSS SUBSTANCE AND TACTICS FOR RESUMPTION OF CSCE CONFERENCE EARLY IN NEW YEAR.

6. PORTUGAL: POLITICAL DIRECTORS DISCUSSED UN FOURTH COMMITTEE REPORT DEALING WITH PORTUGAL'S "COLONIAL" TERRITORIES AND AGREED THAT THE NINE SHOULD ATTEMPT TO MODERATE TONE OF REPORT TO RENDER IT SOMEWHAT LESS OFFENSIVE TO PORTUGUESE. POLITICAL DIRECTORS ALSO DECIDED TO SUPPORT PORTUGAL'S RETURN TO UN SPECIALIZED

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ACTION EUR-08

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AGENCIES.

7. EC SUMMIT: DUFOURCQ SAID THAT POLITICAL DIRECTORS AGREED THAT EC SUMMIT AGENDA MUST INCLUDE PROBLEMS OF INFLATION, UNEMPLOYMENT, ENERGY AND EC INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES. HE ADDED THAT EC-NINE SEEMED TO AGREE TO

FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR EC SUMMIT DECEMBER 9-10 OR 10-11, ALTHOUGH EXACT DATES WERE YET TO BE WORKED OUT (HE MADE NO MENTION OF RECALCITRANT IRISH). WHEN WE ASKED DUFOURCQ WHAT HE EXPECTED TO BE ACHIEVED AT EC-SUMMIT, HE COMMENTED THAT HE SAW LIKELIHOOD OF AT LEAST TWO INSTITUTIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS: AGREEMENT TO PRINCIPLE OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED EC-NINE SUMMITS, AND ACCELERATION OF TREND TO BRING ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL

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ASPECTS OF EC-NINE CLOSER TOGETHER. HE DID NOT SUGGEST THAT SUMMIT MIGHT ACHIEVE SIGNIFICANT BREAKTHROUGH ON THE CRITICAL SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES CONFRONTING THE EC TODAY.

8. US-EC CONSULTATIONS: IN COURSE OF GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT WITH US, DUFOURCQ SAID THAT FRENCH EC PRESIDENCY WOULD BE "HAPPY" TO RECEIVE ANY COMMENTS THAT USG MIGHT WISH TO MAKE ON SUBJECTS DISCUSSED AT NOVEMBER 7 POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEETING -- OR ANY OTHER SUBJECTS, FOR THAT MATTER. HE UNDERTOOK TO INSURE THAT ANY U.S. COMMENTS WOULD BE PASSED TO THE OTHER EC MEMBERS. DUFOURCQ NOTED THAT THE GOF HAS ATTEMPTED TO KEEP U.S. SCRUPULOUSLY INFORMED OF POLITICAL ACTIVITIES WITHIN EC-NINE DURING PERIOD OF FRENCH EC PRESIDENCY. HE REMARKED THAT THIS WILLINGNESS TO CONSULT WITH U.S. HAD NOT SEEMED TO EXCITE INTEREST ON PART OF U.S. TO MAKE US-EC PRESIDENCY CONSULTATIONS A TWO-WAY STREET (WITH OBVIOUS EXCEPTION OF CONSULTATIONS ON CYPRUS DURING SUMMER).

9. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH FRENCH EFFORTS TO KEEP U.S. INFORMED OF EC-NINE POLITICAL ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN SPORADIC AND SELECTIVE RATHER THAN SCRUPULOUS, DUFOURCQ'S COMMENT ON US-EC PRESIDENCY CONSULTATIONS IS CLEARLY AN INVITATION TO A DIALOGUE WHICH USG CAN EXPLOIT TO REINFORCE BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL CONTACTS IN OTHER FORUMS. IN SHORT, THE EC-NINE PRESIDENCY IS ONE MORE CHANNEL FOR COMMUNICATING OUR POINT OF VIEW ON IMPORTANT SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES TO THE EC-NINE. THE MODEST BEGINNING OFFERED BY THE FRENCH DURING THEIR PRESIDENCY, WE BELIEVE, CAN GRADUALLY TRANSFORM ITSELF INTO A NATURAL HABIT OF GIVE AND TAKE EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE US AND THE EMERGING POLITICAL PERSONALITY OF THE EC-NINE ONCE THIS CONSULTATIVE PROCESS IS JOINED BY THE USG WITH DETERMINATION (REF B). WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT THIS APPROACH DOES NOT FORECLOSE THE POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE BROADENING OF CONSULTATIONS AS ENVISAGED IN REF C. FOR THE MOMENT, HOWEVER, THE FRENCH ARE NOT WILLING TO CONSIDER US-EC CONSULTATIONS IN A GROUP OF TEN ("A DIX"). IN LIGHT OF THIS, IT WOULD APPEAR TO BE IN OUR INTEREST

TO MAKE THE BEST POSSIBLE USE OF AN AVAILABLE EXISTING
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CHANNEL: THE E.C. PRESIDENCY.

10. ACTION REQUESTED: IN LIGHT OF FOREGOING, DEPART-
MENT MAY WISH TO PROVIDE EMBASSY WITH SUBSTANTIVE MATE-
RIAL ON SUBJECTS MENTIONED IN PARA 3 - 7 ABOVE, OR
OTHER SUBJECTS WHICH WASHINGTON DEEMS APPROPRIATE, FOR
DISCUSSION WITH GOF AS EC-NINE PRESIDENT.
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